

Remarks by The Hon. Minister for Works and Transport Gen. Katumba Wamala At the Korea International Corporation Agency (KOICA) Project Commissioning Held at Entebbe International Airport On 22nd September 2022.

Your Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of South Korea,
The Country Director of KOICA,
The Board of Directors UCAA
The Director General UCAA,
Invited Guests
Members of the Press,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

A Good morning to you all.

It is a great honour for me to be here today to perform the official commissioning of the Korean International Cooperation Agency projects at Entebbe International Airport. As you know, the Government of Uganda attaches a lot of importance to the aviation industry because it guarantees the country direct international access thereby promoting trade, tourism, and social development.

The Government's aviation strategy is to leverage Uganda's geographical location to become a regional hub for air transport so that the country can compete successfully for economic growth opportunities.

To achieve this objective, the Government of Uganda is undertaking several interventions aimed at developing an air transport network that will connect Uganda to all major cities in the world.

As you have already heard from the Director General UCAA, Government has supported the upgrade and expansion of infrastructures at Entebbe International airport worth US

Dollars 325million with a loan from the EXIM Bank of China and a Grant from the Republic of South Korea of US Dollars 9.5million to improve Air Navigation Services & Airport Operations.

There is also commitment to upgrade facilities at the regional aerodromes to meet international standards, the opening of new routes through signing of Bilateral Air Services Agreements, the revival of the National Carrier and ongoing development of a second international airport at Kabaale in Hoima district, all intended to accommodate current and future air traffic and to comply with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) safety requirements.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in view of all the above, I am confident that all these Government plans will go a long way in developing the air transport industry and to contribute to the social, political, and economic prosperity of our Great Nation Uganda.

It is projected that by 2033, air traffic will have grown to a tune of 10 million international passengers per annum. I would therefore like to implore the Board and Management of the Uganda Civil Aviation Authority (UCAA) and all other airport players to observe with strictness the minimum required standards of ICAO to strive to deliver reliable, efficient, and quality air transport services.

The Government of Uganda is highly committed and will continue to support and provide an enabling environment for the growth of the Aviation industry in the country to spur economic development.

To our development partners, let me use this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to the Republic of South Korea and its development agency the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) for working assiduously towards supporting the Government of Uganda to improve Airport Efficiency, Airport Safety and the Human Capacity Building through training and the customized technology transfer. This is a

demonstration of the mutual and beneficial relationship that exists between our Governments and people of Uganda and KOICA.

On this delightful note, I hereby flag off the official commissioning of the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) projects at Entebbe International Airport.

I thank you all for your support and effort towards this event.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.

Ends